ADMINISTRATION REPORT

ON THE

HILL TRACTS, NORTHERN ARAKAN

FOR

The year 1875-76.

Rangoon:

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1876.

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GENERAL

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

OF THE

GARO HILLS DISTRICT

FOR THE

Year 1875-76.

No. 2773, dated Shillong, 24th July 1876.

From—S. O. B. RIDSDALE, Esq., Secy. to the Chief Commissioner of Assam,

To—T. H. THORNTON, Esq., D.C.L., Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India, Foreign Dept.

I AM directed to forward, for the information of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council, copy of the Annual Administration Report of the Garo Hills District for the year 1875-76, and the remarks of the Chief Commissioner thereon.

Officers in charge.

CAPTAIN WILLIAMSON was in charge of the district during the whole year, except for a few days in December 1875, when he obtained privilege leave to proceed to Calcutta in extension of the general holiday granted in honor of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. Mr. Cawley officiated as Deputy Commissioner of the Garo Hills during Captain Williamson's absence.

Mr. Cawley.

Mr. Cawley served throughout the year, with the above exception, as a Magistrate of the 2nd class and Assistant Superintendent of Police. He was also in charge of the treasury during the year.

He receives no remuneration for the extra duties entailed on him by the exercise of judicial powers and the charge of the treasury. He has not received any promotion during the year, and he is in the same position as regards pay and allowances as he was in the year 1868. He stands next, it is thought, on the rolls for promotion to the rank of District Superintendent of Police, and the Deputy Commissioner again ventures to indulge the hope that the year 1876-77 may see him gazetted

as District Superintendent of Police. He has (as he always has been) of the greatest assistance to the Deputy Commissioner during the year.

Attitude of the people.

The attitude of the Garos of the inner hills is best described by saying that it requires no remarks; and the conduct of the people during the past year has been entirely satisfactory. There have been no raids whatever from 1st April to 31st March 1876, and no cases of dacoity or other serious crime along the borders. The lately independent country has been quiet, and no cases other than those alluded to under the head of crime have occurred. The Garos have shown a willing obedience to the orders of the Deputy Commissioner in nearly every instance, which is very satisfactory.

Conduct of the Luskurs and Luckmas.

The Luskurs and Luckmas have discharged their duties fairly during the past year, but they occasionally lack authority, and it happens now and then their orders are questioned, but every opportunity is taken of strengthening their hands and of supporting them. The Deputy Commissioner has not been able to do much in the way of defining the jurisdictions of many of the Luskurs; the more important work of defining his own jurisdiction and demarcating the boundaries of the Garo Hills has absorbed the whole of his time. During the present year he hopes to submit a scheme for a complete khana shumari of the hills (*i. e.*, house counting) which if carried out systematically will greatly facilitate the work of adjusting the Luskurships. The system of administration is suited to the people and works well, and when the Luskurs thoroughly understand the limits of their jurisdictions, it will work better.

Punchayuts.

The Punchayut as a means of settling disputes is made as much use of as possible.

Revenue.

The revenue was punctually discharged, and the arrear balances, though somewhat larger than those of the year 1874-75, were not heavy.

Settlement of blood feuds.

The settlement of blood feuds and old cases among the Garos has been steadily proceeded with, and many long standing quarrels have been amicably settled, and the skulls publicly burnt at Tura. That part of the district of Goalpara which was included within the Garo Hills by the boundary laid down by Mr. Beckett was formally transferred to the charge of the Deputy Commissioner, Garo Hills, in November 1875, who was directed, in conjunction with the Deputy Commissioner, Goalpara, to enquire into the claims of the zamindars for compensation for lands thus included within the Garo Hills. The zamindars have not as yet filed their claims; the time fixed for the submission of these claims by the Chief Commissioner is the 1st May 1876.

Claims of zamindars to compensation.

The boundary round the hills has now been declared, and the course which was proposed in 1866, as regards the claims of the zamindars of Korroibary and Meehmara, has been at last adopted, and in a few years it is hoped that Government will, in the improvement of administration which will be possible by this new boundary, derive considerable benefit.

RESOLUTION

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

OF THE

HILL TRACTS, NORTHERN ARAKAN,

For the year 1875-76.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner, British Burma, in the Political Department,—No. 421-78, dated the 7th November 1876.

READ—

Report on the Administration of the Arakan Hill Tracts for the year 1875-76.

RESOLUTION.—The fifth Report on the Administration of the Arakan Hill Tracts, although in some respects not so favourable as that of the previous year, contains an account of steady and satisfactory progress.

2. Our dealings are with a people divided into tribes and classes for a long period of years at feud with each other, and who, from the absence of any single controlling authority amongst them, have resorted to the practice of enforcing by arms, wherever they had the means and power, the claims to which they considered themselves entitled. Their principle of action was that might was right, and, as the reports abundantly testify, the loss of a single head of cattle, or the death of a child, assumed to be the result of witchcraft exercised by a hostile neighbour, justified recourse to acts of plunder, violence, and murder, as measures of retaliation and reprisal. The system which the Government has adopted has been to bring within its administrative boundaries as many of these hill tribes as were ready and willing to reside within its limits, on the understanding that, while on the part of Government protection and immunity from raids would be secured as far as practicable to those seeking its shelter, the tribes themselves on their side should abandon the resort to violence against each other, and turn their attention to peaceful labours. It is not surprising that the expectations based on such a system have not been realized in a day. The people are entirely uneducated; they have enjoyed for many years a complete freedom from restraint, and could scarcely be expected to submit at once to any of the restrictions which order and civilization impose. It is satisfactory to find, however, that among

the tribes within our borders peace and good will have prevailed throughout the year. There has been an entire freedom from internal disputes and discord. Crime, both as regards bailable and non-bailable offences, shows a decided diminution; and as regards the civil litigation, the increase reported has reference chiefly to petty trading debts, as regards which it is satisfactory to find that the adjudication of the Civil Courts is now preferred to any measures of personal and violent exaction.

3. From beyond our frontier some hostility has been shown, and, after a complete immunity from raids for two years in succession, the commission of a raid towards the close of the past year on the Khyeng villages of Boungdway and Aitza is a matter for regret, more especially as these villages had but lately moved for protection within our limits. It has been suggested, in explanation of the fact, that the raiders, in making their attack, were not aware that the villages referred to had been brought within our administrative jurisdiction. There is something to support this view, though it loses somewhat of its force in face of the fact that a similar raid was reported last year on these same villages, because it was known that they were about to move within our frontier. A proposal to punish the offending villages was not approved, as it has been no part of the policy of Government to interfere with the non-tributary chiefs and tribes beyond our administration. An attempt, however, to recover the captives taken in the raids, as far as it could be accomplished without resort to an armed expedition, was made by the Inspector-General of Police and the Officiating Superintendent of the Hill Tracts later in the year. They proceeded to the neighbourhood of the villages concerned in the raid, and opened up communication with the headmen; but with no other result than that of promises of better behaviour for the future.

4. The report of the Inspector-General of Police as to the efficient state of the police-guards, which he took the opportunity of visiting during his march into the interior, was most satisfactory.

5. By the transfer of what was known as the Upper Lemroo Guard to a spot at the junction of the Peng and Lemroo streams, ample protection will be given in future to the raided villages; and the change in site has already, it is reported, had the effect of inducing more frequent visits from the trans-frontier chiefs. The anticipated difficulty of providing this guard with food has been quite overcome by the readiness with which supplies are brought in by the trans-frontier villagers.

6. The raids committed beyond the frontier have been more numerous than in the year previous, and in some cases more serious.

The record of slaughter and rapine, contained in the 36th paragraph of Mr. Buckle's report illustrates forcibly the miseries and uncertainties under which the people beyond our boundaries pass their lives. The contrast with the peace and contentment within our own borders must in time have its effect upon even the wild population throughout these Hill Tracts, and it is gratifying to learn that during the year under review a new tribe—that of the Chaws—has finally settled down within our frontier, though their numbers have not yet been included in the population of the district. It would also appear that the chief of the Khoon tribe and several of his villagers have moved within our frontier, but they are not shown in the population-return as belonging to that tribe. These results, if correctly recorded, are satisfactory proofs of the successful progress of the policy of the Government, and although no direct action can be brought to bear on the chiefs of the trans-frontier tribes, it appears probable that a more frequent intercourse with them would have some effect in inducing them to live more peaceably. The visits of these chiefs appear to be getting less frequent, and to be made by the same men in each year. The Superintendent should give his special attention to this subject.

7. The returns of civil and criminal justice call for little remark. The entire absence of appeals from the decisions of the Assistant Superintendent is highly creditable to that officer.

8. The Superintendent should have reported specially on the working of the two regulations which were introduced at the commencement of 1875. The remarks relating to them are word for word the same as those of last year's report, as also in the main are the contents of the first twenty-five paragraphs of the Superintendent's report on the physical description of the country and people. It is quite unnecessary to recapitulate such particulars.

9. It being the first year in which any attempt has been made to register the trade on the Kooladan, the returns are probably not very reliable. The classification of goods will require some change, as the value of imports under the head of "miscellaneous" is nearly half that of the whole imports, whilst under the head of "exports" the item "unsold goods" is unintelligible. Tobacco should undoubtedly become an

important article of export: the soil is particularly suitable to the produce, there is but little labour required in preparing the ground, and no tax is levied on the cultivation. There is reason to hope that the visit of Dr. Browne, who has been deputed to enquire into the method of cultivating and curing tobacco, will lead to some practical results in the improvement in both these respects.

10. The report regarding the dispensary is one of the most satisfactory features of the year's work, and the large increase of patients, from 404 in 1874 to 1,441 in the year past, is no doubt attributable to the attention paid by Mr. David, the Assistant Apothecary in charge, to whom every praise is due for his exertions.

11. Mr. Buckle and Mr. Hannay deserve the commendation which the Commissioner has recorded in their favour.

By order of the Chief Commissioner,

C. W. STREET, *Major*,

Officiating Secretary.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

ON THE

HILL TRACTS, NORTHERN ARAKAN,

For the year 1875-76.

From Lieutenant-Colonel E. B. SLADEN, Commissioner of the Arakan Division, to the Officiating Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, British Burma,—No. 303, dated the 22nd July 1876.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following remarks on the Arakan Hill Tracts Administration Report for 1875-76, which was forwarded to you, with my letter No. 284 of 7th instant.

2. The report has been prepared by the Superintendent, Mr. Buckle, with great care, and is the fifth of its kind since the introduction of the new form of administration into our Northern Arakan Hill Tracts. As regards its descriptive results, relating to geography, boundaries, and inhabitants, the report is a mere recapitulation of its predecessors, and any remarks thereon, on my part, would be altogether superfluous.

3. On coming, however, to those portions of the report which refer more directly to administrative results, I think I am justified in saying that improvement is observable everywhere, and that the district is gradually advancing in all those matters which depend upon the continuance of careful management, and a sound administration.

4. Within our administrative frontier all has been, comparatively, peace and tranquillity: whilst beyond the frontier, but still within our territorial limits, news has reached the Superintendent of nine savage raids, in which 21 people were killed, 2 wounded, and 57 carried away captives, exclusive of 120 persons who are said to have been killed or carried off in a raid on the Chittagong frontier.

5. This seems to show that even wild tribes can be taught in time, and, by practical observation, to estimate and appreciate the value of peaceful avocations in place of blood-thirsty expeditions eventuating in spoliation and plunder.

The consequence has been, as reported by the Superintendent, that one whole tribe—the *Chaws*—have come over to us

in a body, and whole villages of other tribes—the *Khoons* and *Khyens*—have placed themselves within our administrative boundary.

6. One of the villages, however, which had been raided beyond our frontier in January 1875, and had subsequently moved for protection within our frontier, was unfortunately again raided on the night of the 16th November 1875, and seven women and five children were carried away into captivity.

The raiders were pursued by our police, but without success.

It was afterwords ascertained that they belonged to the *Mroo* villages of *Tahartsa*, *Koauktsa*, and *Koungdoo*, and that interminable feuds existed between these villages, and the *Khyen* villages of *Boungdway* and *Aitza*, which had recently moved within our administrative frontier, and raided, as above related, on 16th November 1875.

7. The Superintendent is of opinion that this raid may have been committed in ignorance of the fact that the villages were within our frontier and under our protection.

More effective protection has now been given to this portion of the frontier, by stationing a strong police-guard on the Upper Lemroo river, at its junction with the Peng river. The Superintendent is of opinion that raids in this direction are now almost impossible.

8. My own belief is, that as long as we possess a long line of territorial frontier, peopled by wild hill tribes, whose normal state for centuries past has been one of rapine and plunder, an occasional raid must be expected, and that its occurrence need not be held as evidencing a want of effective good management or watchfulness within that portion of the frontier which we have taken under our direct administration.

9. The tranquillity already obtained within the frontier line is already bearing fruit to an extent which is most encouraging as regards the future.

With comparative immunity from attack, the hill people are fast turning their attention to the advantages of cultivation and petty trade.

From Mr. Buckle's figures we learn that the value of imports and exports during the past year amounted to over five lakhs of rupees.

No similar statistics would appear to have been kept for former years, but from what I can learn, the present figures represent a considerable increase, and are proof of material progress, and improvement amongst the people throughout the whole district.

10. Mr. Buckle continues to attend to the extension of tobacco and cotton cultivation.

The value of the exports last year was :—

	Rs.
Tobacco	28,462
Cotton...	3,325

This amount will, doubtless, be largely added to in time, as population increases, and the people estimate more fully the value of increased and improved production. An experiment made with Egyptian cotton failed, and Mr. Buckle is of opinion that this particular variety of seed is unsuited to *toungya* cultivation.

Tobacco exports amounted to over 5,000 maunds.

Experiments are being made this year with Manilla seed, which has thrived well, but the produce has not yet come to market.

Varieties of American seed have also been procured, and will be tried during next year's sowing. It is to these two products, that we can most confidently look for largely-increased production within the hill tracts, and I shall continue to do all in my power to encourage their cultivation.

11. In the meantime it is satisfactory to note the gradual development of what may now be almost called a trade with the Hill Tracts, and to know that this is due to the policy we are pursuing, of securing peace within our own frontiers, and maintaining, as far as we are able, friendly relations with the Chiefs of trans-frontier tribes.

12. Another of the indirect benefits of this policy has been that, during the year, eleven slaves, who separately claimed and obtained our interference on their behalf, have been liberated.

It has not been the practice of the Superintendent to interfere in this respect, *suo motu*, unless solicited to do so ; but it is generally known throughout the district that slavery is not countenanced, and that those who apply to the police-stations for aid, receive it to the fullest extent.

13. The success of the Civil Dispensary at the head-quarters of the district is another cause for congratulation. The hill tribes have learned to confide in our system of medical treatment, and form by far the largest portion of patients at the hospital. This success is principally due to the skill and the considerate kindness of Apothecary David, in medical charge, who is evidently doing much good in his present appointment.

14. Civil and criminal justice has been administered in accordance with a special code adapted to the requirements and condition of this particular part of the country.

Civil suits have increased in number, whilst crime, where little crime exists,) has decreased. Both results may be regarded as favourable.

15. Mr. Buckle speaks well of the police force. The work the men perform is of a very trying nature: the patrols pass through a malarious country in which fever is at all times prevalent. This will account for the comparatively large number of admissions into hospital.

The effectiveness of the force would, I consider, be very much improved by the substitution of 100 breech-loading Snider carbines, in lieu of a proportionate number of the arms now in use.

The 100 muzzle-loading rifled carbines last supplied have been much appreciated.

I would now propose to give the men who have used these weapons, breech-loading Sniders, and make over the muzzle-loading Sniders to 100 of the police now armed with the old Brown Bess.

This proposition to improve, as far as possible, the present mode of arming the hill police is one which has met with the approval of every officer connected with the Hill Tracts, and will, I hope, receive the favourable attention of the local Government.

16. As a final present means of improving the general condition of the Hill Tracts district, steam communication will soon be maintained by a suitable steam-launch, the cost of which has been sanctioned by the Chief Commissioner.

17. With these remarks, I think I may leave Mr. Buckle's report to speak for itself.

Mr. Buckle is much to be commended for his effective superintendence throughout the year, and the great interest he has taken in every branch of the work assigned to him.

He speaks in the highest terms of the zeal in the discharge of his duties, manifested by Mr. Hannay as Assistant Superintendent at Dalekmai.

Messrs. Hawkes and Brown, who joined the district during the year as chief Inspectors of Police, are both good officers, and have given every satisfaction to the Superintendent in the performance of their several duties.

Administration Report of the Hill Tracts, Northern Arakan, for the year 1875-76, by MR. H. BUCKLE, *Officiating Superintendent of Hill Tracts, Northern Arakan—(No. 7, Political).*

HEADS OF REPORT.

A.—Physical description of the Hill Tracts District, its boundaries and inhabitants.

B.—Foreign, or relations with tribes beyond the administrative boundary and raids during the year.

C.—Domestic, containing all matters connected with the internal administration of the district during the year, together with the usual civil and criminal justice reports condensed.

2. This report will form the fifth one which has been submitted since the introduction of the new administrative measures framed by the Chief Commissioner and sanctioned by the Government of India in the Foreign Department (Political), No. 1451, dated Simla, the 10th July 1871.

3. The separate memorandum for this report, together with the statistical returns, have already been submitted.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION.

A.—Physical description of the Hill Tracts District, its boundaries and inhabitants.

Line laid down in 1871, demarcating the Hill Tracts district.

4. In introducing the new administrative measure in 1871, an interior line was laid down, demarcating the limits of the jurisdiction of the Hill Tracts district, as distinct from the territorial limits of the Empire, which, as then stated, must, for many reasons, remain undefined. The line—which, except in the direction of the Lemroo river, is practically the same as that defined by Sir Arthur Phayre in 1866—is as follows: "At its northernmost point, the boundary commences with a line running due east and west from Kolawah, on the Kooladan river. To the westward, the line runs to the border of the Chittagong district. To the eastward, it runs to the eastern water-shed of the Kooladan river, and thence southward on the water-shed to the Bucka-toung (hill); from that, in a south-easterly direction, along the Kyouk-pin-doung range, to the present police-station on the Tsamee creek. The line then runs south-east to the junction of the Peng creek with the Lemroo river, and continues down the eastern water-shed of the Lemroo river, to the junction of the Maw and Seng rivers. From this point it proceeds down the course of the latter river to its junction with the Lemroo, and then along the course of that river to its junction with the Yaw creek. It then follows a line drawn from the above junction to the station of Myouk-toung, on the Kooladan river. Thence it proceeds up the eastern bank of the Kooladan river to the latitude of the Kooladan police-station, and then due west to the western water-shed of the Pee river; from that running north on the Mawduk range of

hills (forming the boundary of Chittagong) to a point due west of Kolawah."

Boundaries of the Hill Tracts district.

5. The Hill Tracts district is bounded on the south by the Akyab district, and on the west by Chittagong, while on the north and east are independent tribes of Lushais, Shindoos, Khoons, Khoungsoos, Khyens, and Mros. From these tribes no tribute of any kind is taken, but the Superintendent, while being forbidden to interfere with or coerce them, is directed to maintain friendly relations with them, and influence them, as far as possible, in the cause of peace and promotion of trade.

Area of the district.

6. In the Revenue Survey map of the district of Akyab, 1853 to 1861, which includes the whole of the Hill Tracts district and a great deal of country beyond, the area of the latter district is given as 1,213 square miles. The extreme length of the district is 60 miles, and the breadth 36 miles.

Physical features.

7. The physical features of the district consist of six distinct ranges of hills, running north and south, between which are the rivers Lemroo, Roo, Mee, Kooladan, and Pee; between each range are confused masses of hills, with numerous hill streams in the valleys. The hills are covered with dense tree and bamboo jungle, except in some parts of the "Pee-doung" and "Kyouk-pin-doung" ranges, where the precipices are too steep for anything to grow. The "Kyouk-pin-doung" is nearly 5,000 feet high at one point, and the other ranges average over 3,000 feet. Tradition speaks of an Arakanese prince having lived on the "Kyouk-pin-doung" some centuries ago; but, if true, the number of his retinue must be grossly exaggerated, as there is very little water in the dry weather, and the surface consists to a great extent of bare rock.

Rivers.

8. The two chief rivers are the Kooladan and the Lemroo. The tributaries of the former, within the district, are the Kula or Kola, Dalek, Paluk, Kan, Mee, and Pee; and of the latter, the Peng, Wet, Than or Seng, and Roo. The Kooladan is a fine stream, navigable for large boats throughout the year as far as 140 miles from its mouth, and there is no doubt that a steamer of light draught might run as far as the present head-quarters with safety. The traffic on the Lemroo, within the Hill Tracts, has to be carried on in canoes, and, the river being full of dangerous rapids, communication is difficult.

Enumeration of tribes within the Hill Tracts District.

9. The tribes of hill-men within the district are—

(1)—Chyoungthas	1,219
(2)—Khamies	7,172
(3)—Mros	2,162
(4)—Khyengs	1,634
(5)—Chaws	200
Total ...	12,387

10. The Chyoungthas are, there is little question, of Arakanese stock, and, according to their ancient legends, they were deputed by one of the kings of Arakan, who selected the hardiest and bravest of his subjects to emigrate from the plains and settle in the hills, in order to repel the wild tribes from marauding and making hostile incursions on the plains. They are almost identical with the Arakanese in dress, manners, and customs, but, from living amongst and having daily intercourse with races who worship solely the elements and spirits of the hills and streams, they have to a great extent relaxed the tenets of the sacred Gaudama.

The Chyoungthas.

Before Arakan was annexed, a very large number of this tribe emigrated to Chittagong; but they have since been returning to their former homes on the river Kooladan, where alone they are now to be found.

The Chyoungthas form the only portion of the hill population who have any knowledge of reading or writing, and their written character, as well as their language, is the same as the Arakanese.

11. The Khamies and Mros are identical in their manners and customs and religion, and their language differs only as dialects of the same language. There appears to be a constant pressure from the north, which has forced the Khamies to leave their former homes to the north-east of the present district, and settle on the Kooladan and its tributaries, while they in turn have driven the Mros further south, until many have settled in the plains of the Akyab District.

Khamies and Mros identical in their manners and customs.

12. The Khamies are divided, like all the hill people, into clans, and probably in former times each clan lived apart with its chief; but their forced immigration has led to their being scattered, and the clans are now split up into small villages, each of which has a *toungmeng*, or chief. The male Khamie wears a long cotton cloth passed several times round the waist and once between the legs, the coloured ends hanging down in front and behind; the hair is done up carefully in a knot over the front part of the head, and a long twisted white cloth is bound round the head so as to stand well up over the forehead. The women wear a dark blue cloth, open at one side, and reaching from the waist to the knee, which is kept up with strings of large beads or copper rings: over the breasts a small strip of cloth is generally worn.

The Khamies.

13. The Mros who live on the Mee, a tributary of the Kooladan, and some streams to the south, appear to be looked upon by the other tribes as inferior to themselves, and until the last few years they were so constantly harassed by their more warlike neighbours, that they seem to bear a downcast and care-worn expression, which contrasts in a marked manner with the sprightly and contented look of the Khamies. It was the custom of this tribe to form a musket-proof nest in some high tree, connected with the village by bamboo ladders, in which men, women, and children took refuge in case of attack; but the practice has died out owing to the freedom from danger which they now enjoy.

The Mros.

The Mros wear a narrow blue waist-cloth, without the hanging tails of the Khamies, and they are not particular as to their head-dress, and the hair is done up carelessly. The women dress much the same as the Khamies.

The Khyengs.

14. Within this district the Khyengs are found only on the Lemroo river, but they are probably more numerous than any of the other tribes, as they extend as far as the Kyouk-hpyoo and Sandoway districts. They are at the same time the lowest in the scale of civilization, and, from having been left very much to themselves until the last few years, they are very retiring and secluded. The Khyengs are still very wild and require careful management, and the following case will show that, although an European Inspector of Police has been stationed on the Lemroo for the last three years, they have not yet got rid of their old ideas.

A Kopaygyee villager carried off for a debt by a party from Boozaing village.

15. A mountain ox belonging to the Boozaing chief was found in the jungle by a Kopaygyee villager, who caught it and sent information to Boozaing, who told him to keep it for a time. Afterwards the ox was killed by a tiger, and it was settled that Boozaing was to receive a gong worth Rs. 30. Nothing more was said about it, but a year afterwards (4th October 1875) a party of men from Boozaing village seized a Kopaygyee villager, and carried him off. This was at once reported to the Inspector, who sent out a party of police, and recovered the man at once.

Both the villages concerned are within the administrative boundary, and pay tax, but Chief Boozaing said he had acted according to Khyeng customs, and he did not know he was acting illegally. The Inspector, Mr. Hawkes, who had only arrived on the Lemroo three weeks before, allowed the matter to be compromised by Chief Boozaing receiving the gong originally promised for the ox, and then by his giving another gong to the man carried off. The parties concerned were quite satisfied, but I think it is quite time that any such high-handed procedure should be put down, even among the Khyengs, and orders have been given to the effect that, in future, the offenders are to be sent up for trial.

In the above case I thought it best to take no further notice of it; as an order to prosecute the offenders after the European Inspector had permitted it to be compromised, would have appeared a breach of faith.

The Khyengs are the only tribe who tattoo their women.

16. The Khyengs are the only tribe who tattoo the faces of their women, and they themselves say the custom arose from the desire to prevent their Burmese rulers being fascinated by the beauty of their women. The desire to mark their women, so as to know them when carried away by other tribes, or to conceal women taken captive by themselves, may, however, either have given rise to the custom, or at any rate helped to make it permanent. There is little hope of the custom dying out, as the young girls look upon it as a disgrace not to be tattooed.

17. The Khyeng language is, I think, distinct from that of the other tribes. The dress of the men is confined to the smallest possible strip of cloth, but the women dress as decently as the Khamies.

The Chaws.

18. The Chaws are an off-shoot of the Kukie family, and tradition says that, some three centuries ago, they were offered as pagoda slaves by a queen of Arakan, named Tsan-magyee. The men knot their hair at the back, and shave over the forehead, and the women plait theirs into two tails, which are brought up over the forehead. Their features are different to the other tribes, and complexion far darker.

I am glad to say that this tribe has at last entered within the administrative boundary, although, as the move took place at the beginning of 1876, they have neither been taxed, nor shown in the population returns.

Little difference among any of the hill tribes in their domestic lives, &c.

19. In their domestic lives there is little difference among any of the hill tribes, and their social usages are much alike. These have been so fully remarked on in former reports, that it is unnecessary to enter into details again. With no caste distinctions, their religion consists in a worship of the spirits, who require to be propitiated on every occasion. Priests are unknown, and divorce being easily obtainable, is probably the reason of polygamy being uncommon.

FOREIGN.

B.—Foreign, or relations with tribes beyond the administrative boundary and raids during the year.

Trans-frontier tribes.

20. The trans-frontier tribes may be classed as below, according to their size :—

(1)—Lushais.
(2)—Shindoos.
(3)—Khyengs.
(4)—Khoons.
(5)—Mros.

During the year under review, the opening out communication with the trans-frontier tribes has received due attention. I shall briefly allude to each of these tribes in the above order, and note what has been done.

The Lushais.

21. The Lushais are too remote to be brought under any influence from the Arakan side, and, although they have not actually appeared near the frontier, there was a generally-believed rumour, in the beginning of April 1875, that a war-party of Howlongs had started, and the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Mr. Hannay, with a large party of police, were on the look-out for them. The Lushais are regarded with great dread by the people of these hills, who have not forgotten the raid committed in January 1869 on the village of Khamie chief Lahawk, when thirty-eight captives were taken, and ten killed.

The Shindoos.

22. The Shindoos inhabit the tract of country to the north and north-east of our northern frontier, and they appear to extend to the east as far as Upper Burma, and to the west as far as the Lushais. So little was formerly known of this tribe, that I find, in a letter to the Government of India in 1870, it was stated to be doubtful whether the word "Shindoos" was not a mere name applied indiscriminately to unknown raiders, who suddenly made their appearance for the purpose of plunder and kidnapping, and then disappear far beyond the reach of pursuit.

The Shindoos do not appear to differ in features from the hill tribes of the district, and they are all probably of the same extraction. They are, however, rather better formed, and more muscular, and both men and women are more decorous in their dress.

Language, manners, and customs.

23. All the clans are said to speak the same language, but this does not prevent them from being constantly at feud with each other.

Their dread of water more than knee-deep is well known, and accounts for their want of cleanliness. The Khamies and Chyoungthas on the Kooladan have taken advantage of this fact by putting the river between their villages and the usual raiding-paths of the Shindoos, and not a single village is to be found on the east bank of the river from above the Kooladan police-station too close to the frontier. It is doubtful whether any but the chiefs indulge in planked houses and riding-ponies.

Their religious and other customs differ little from other hill tribes, except that, instead of practising cremation, the Shindoos bury their dead within the village, the grave of a chief being lined with stones and generally dug alongside his house.

Cultivation and manufactures.

24. I think there is no doubt that the Shindoos cultivate by the *jhoom* method, like the lower tribes, although at one time it was supposed they followed the terrace cultivation, which is common among the Himalayan tribes. The principal manufacture of the Shindoos is their cloth, which finds a ready market on the Kooladan in the shape of waist-cloths, turbans, sheets, and haversack bags. The cotton from which the cloth is made is grown by themselves, as is also the indigo with which they dye. Only sufficient tobacco is grown for their own consumption, and, instead of drying the open leaves, they are trodden by the feet into balls and then dried in the sun. For salt the Shindoos are entirely dependent on the river Kooladan, but, when obliged to do without it, they use as a substitute the ashes of certain weeds. The Shindoos show considerable ingenuity in ornamentation. Their powder-horns are made of gyal horns, which are fancifully inlaid and polished. Guns which a month before they have obtained in a raid are so altered with paint, varnish, and inlaid work as to be past recognition, and this has led to the idea that their guns were not of English manufacture. They understand sufficient of the blacksmith's art to enable them to repair any ordinary breakage of a gun, and I have been told that they can even convert a percussion into a flint musket.

They manufacture their own gunpowder, getting their sulphur from Upper Burma.

Enumeration of the Shindoo clans.

25. The following are the principal clans of the Shindoo tribe, ranged approximately according to their distance from our frontier post at Dalekmai :—

(1)—Bouk-kyee.	(6)—Yoe-kwee.	(11)—Tan-krain.
(2)—Lallaing.	(7)—Rumpee.	(12)—Moungdoo.
(3)—Say-bung.	(8)—Yaklaing.	(13)—Bwa.
(4)—Saype.	(9)—Hotie.	(14)—Toungsat.
(5)—Nga-pie.	(10)—Raypee.	(15)—Hakah.

The Bouk-kyee clan, which is the nearest, is five days' journey from Dalekmai, and the others range from that up to nine days in the case of the Toungsat clan. The Hakah clan is too far distant for much to be known about them. The roads are said to improve as one goes north.

With the exception of the chief of the Bouk-kyee clan, who is very friendly, none of the chiefs have as yet sufficient confidence to trust themselves in our hands, although representatives of most of the clans have from time to time visited Dalekmai.

Reason of our ignorance of the Shindoos in former years.

26. Our ignorance of the Shindoos in former years was kept up by interested parties, who prevented interviews being obtained by representing matters in a false light. Our tribute-paying Khamies were averse to the Shindoos coming within the frontier owing to the injuries inflicted on them in former raids ; and for fear of the visitors acting as spies and getting up fresh raids while the Khamies on the frontier and the Khoons beyond, who act as middle-men to the Shindoos for the purchase of salt, salt-fish, &c., were against it as threatening their trade. No obstruction is now allowed to be placed in the way of Shindoos wishing to visit Dalekmai or the head-quarters, but the hostile feeling will probably show itself again in case of a raid being committed on the Kooladan.

Visits on the northern frontier during the year.

27. Owing, probably, to the absence on a month's leave of the Assistant Superintendent of Police towards the commencement of 1876, there are not so many visits to note as last year :—

On the 1st April 1875, Tatkee, the nephew of the present Yaklaing chief, Hkain Oon, visited the Assistant Superintendent of Police at Dalekmai, and he repeated his visit on the 26th October 1875.

On the 20th May 1875, Like Boh, the chief of the Bouk-kyee clan, came to Dalekmai accompanied by Lock Ay, a petty chief of the same clan.

On the 20th December 1875, Tanang, a chief of the Bouk-kyee clan, came to Dalekmai.

On the 25th February 1876, three Toungsat Shindoos arrived.

The Khyengs.

28. The trans-frontier Khyengs are even wilder and more uncivilised than the Khyengs within the boundary ; and those to the north, who are known as Koos, wear nothing but strips of cane passed round their waists.

The advance of the Lemroo guard to Prengwah, as noted in paragraph 87 *post*, has already had a very good effect on these people, which will, I hope, continue. In December 1875, I inaugurated the establishment of the new guard by a feast, to which three trans-frontier chiefs came, one of whom, the brother of Ohsee chief, was certainly the wildest specimen of a human being I have ever seen. When induced to come into the hut in which I was staying, he could not look at me, and was evidently in a terrible fright. On my giving him a rupee, it could be seen that he did not know what it was, and had never had one before.

Mr. Hawkes, who was the Chief Inspector of Police in charge of the Lemroo till the close of the year, reports that from the date of my feast till the end of the year he was visited several times by the following trans-frontier chiefs and villagers :—

Ohsee Chief.	Mooeeloo Villagers.
Humm-doo do.	Loong Doon do.
Mahdoo Villagers.	Loom-dway Chief.
Dan Zau Villagers.	

Of the above, people from Mahdoo, Mooeeloo, and Loom-dway had never before visited the officer in charge of the Lemroo.

In addition to this, Mr. Hawkes was able to induce a few men of trans-frontier villages to come in to work on the new stockade at daily wages. The difficulty of provisioning the advanced guard has been entirely met by the willingness of these trans-frontier people to supply rice, &c.

I attribute this success chiefly to the fact that fire-arms are very rare among the trans-frontier tribes of the Lemroo ; and the presence of a force of thirty armed men, headed by an European, commands more respect than among the Shindoos, who, in former years, obtained possession of a considerable number of muskets *viâ* the Kooladan and Mee rivers.

Khoons, Kongsohs, and Anoos.

29. The Khoon tribe includes the Kongsoh and Anoo clans. Kapah, the Khoon chief, removed within our frontier last year, and several of his villagers have now followed him. The Anoos live just beyond our northern frontier. The Kongsohs live further to the north-east, but are nearer than the Shindoos. In former years this tribe was quite as troublesome as the Shindoos, in whose raids they almost invariably joined ; but I think they have been weaned from their allegiance, and that we shall have no further trouble with them. During the year, the principal chiefs paid visits to the Chief Inspector in charge of the Tsamee post, Mr. Brown, and some of them came as far as Palukwa and Dalekmai.

The Mros.

30. The trans-frontier Mros, who live at the source of the Tsamee and Peng *khyoungs*, are an important tribe, divided into several clans, and living in large villages of in some cases over 100 houses. I shall refer to these people again when remarking on the raid committed in November 1875.

Raids generally.

31. I have next to report on the raids and attempts at the same—

(1) on tribute-paying villages within the frontier;
(2) on trans-frontier tribes, by other independent tribes beyond the frontier.

32. I have to note that a raid was committed on the 16th November 1875 on the Khyeng villages of Boungdway and Aitza, in which seven women and five children were carried away captive, and one man was speared to death; while the body of a boy was found drowned, and it was supposed that he got out of his depth in trying to escape, and was washed away by the strong current.

Raid on the 16th November 1875.

This was one of the villages referred to in paragraph 32 of last year's report as having moved within our frontier immediately after being raided on the 4th January 1875, while situated just beyond our frontier.

The protection of these villages was one of the reasons of the advance of the Lemroo guard, and the Inspector of Police was actually on his way with a strong party of police to commence work on the new guard when he received the news of the raid having been committed a few hours before. The police started in pursuit, but failed to overtake the raiders.

It appeared on enquiry that the villagers had been sleeping on the further bank of the Lemroo river, and when the raiders, who are supposed to have been about one hundred strong, found the village deserted, they made a raft and sent a small detachment across the river make the attack. This, as usual, was made in the early morning, and at the first alarm everyone sought safety in flight, with the result above noted. About a month afterwards, reliable information was obtained to the effect that the raiders came from the three trans-frontier Mro villages of Tahentsa, Kaouktsa, and Koungdoo, with whom Boungdway and Aitza have ever been at feud, owing to which they have been previously raided six times, and have lost almost all their women and two-thirds of their males.

33. On my return from the Lemroo, I reported what I had learnt, and asked for permission to take a party of fifty of my police to the offending villages; and, in case of necessity, I proposed to attack and occupy one of the villages, which, if accompanied by a threat to destroy the granaries, would, I think, have led to the restoration of the captives. Immediately after writing this report, I was relieved by Captain Gower.

On the 4th March 1876, the Inspector-General of Police, Captain Gower, and the Chief Inspectors of Police of the Tsamee and Lemroo, with a party of twenty police and eight days' provisions, made a start from the Tsamee police guard for the offending villages. The party returned on the 11th March, without having been successful in releasing any of the captives, or even obtaining an interview with the leaders of the raids. On the 8th March, however, a palaver was held with Atteen, one of the most important chiefs of this part, and, from what he said, it would appear the raiders were unaware that Boungdway and Aitza had come under our protection, and profuse promises were made of better behaviour in future. Atteen, before consenting to see the Inspector-General of Police, had demanded a hostage; but, notwithstanding that this was granted, it afterwards transpired that a

party of forty armed men had been hidden round a bend of the river, in case of any treachery on our side.

A lad belonging to a tributary Khyeng village carried off and recovered.

34. On the 14th July 1875, a lad belonging to the tributary Khyeng village of Kak-keh was carried off by a party of men from the trans-frontier village of Saloon Wet. On enquiry, it appeared that some time before a Saloon Wet villager had died after returning from Kak-keh village, where he had gone to buy rice; and his people, charging Kak-keh village with having caused his death, seized the lad in order to force them to pay a penalty. On the news reaching Mr. Mercer, the Chief Inspector of Police, he sent a party of tributary chiefs to demand the lad, who was given up. No further notice was taken of this offence, which can hardly be called a raid.

Attempts at raids.

35. There were no attempts at raids during the year, although a few strange footsteps were found in the jungle in April 1875 and in the beginning of 1876, which led to the supposition that Shindoo spies had been lurking about to note the positions of any villages favourable for attack. The Shindoos invariably send out a party of four or five men, to note the village to be attacked and the route to be taken, before starting on a raid, and, as our patrols are over every mile of the frontier once a week, and special parties are sent out on the first rumour of anything wrong, I have little doubt that the sight of them at a distance, although themselves unseen, or even the hearing of a stray shot at game, has more than once been sufficient to send these spies quietly home again.

Raids beyond the frontier.

36. The raids beyond the frontier, of which we have authentic information, are more numerous than those of last year:—

(1)—On the morning of the 5th April 1875, the village of Khoon, Chief Kapah (as noted in paragraph 26 of last year's Report, he had left his people and come within our frontier), was fired into, but no damage was done. The villagers were living on rafts in the middle of the river, and the assailants, not being able to come to close quarters, ran away. It is supposed that the raiders belonged to the Say-bung and Saype clans of Shindoos, who have an old feud with the Khoons, who they attacked twice in December 1873 and January 1874. The Shindoos were, however, repulsed on both occasions.

(2)—On the 1st June 1875 a party of six Yaklaing Shindoos were waylaid by men from the trans-frontier Khamie village of Kintoung, and one of the Shindoos was killed and the others captured. This was in revenge for a raid committed in 1869 on Kintoung's village by Yaklaing Shindoos of the same village as the men now captured, when three or four people were killed and fourteen taken away captive. The relations have made repeated overtures for redeeming the captives, but the Shindoos demanded so large a ransom, in which they insisted on muskets being included, that nothing came of it. They now hope to make an exchange of captives. Previous to the introduction of the new administrative measure in 1871, the village

of Kintoung paid tribute to the British Government, but since that date no tribute has been taken, as the village was beyond the line there laid down.

(3)—In the early part of 1876 the Hakah Shindoos are reported to have attacked the Howlongs on the Chittagong frontier, and they are said to have killed and carried off 120.

(4)—On the north-eastern frontier, a story reached the Tsamee guard of a raid having been committed on a village at the head-waters of the Peng stream, which falls into the Lemroo, in April 1875, when four persons were killed and 14 taken captive; but no exact information was obtained of the attacking party.

(5)—On the morning of the 30th April 1875 the Khyeng village of Dway, about one day's journey beyond the Lemroo frontier, was raided by the same trans-frontier Mros, who afterwards attacked Boung-dway and Aitza, and three men and three women were killed, and one man, eight women, and one child were carried away captives. The child and one of the women are said to have been speared by the raiders on their way home. I have been unable to trace any particular reason for this raid beyond the lust for *loot*.

This is the third time that Dway village has been raided within the last two and-a-half years, and the villagers will probably follow the example of their chief, who put himself under our protection in January 1875, and come within the frontier.

(6)—In the middle of January 1876 the Lemroo trans-frontier Khyeng village of Hummdoo, which contained only 12 houses, was attacked by a party of Mros, and three persons were killed, two wounded, and 15 carried away.

(7)—On the following day the trans-frontier Khyeng village of Loongdoon was raided by another party of Mros, and one man was speared and five women were carried off.

(8)—Immediately after their return from the raid No. 6, the villagers of Tahentsa were attacked by some tribe further again to the north, and three persons were killed and 10 captives, including two women taken from Boung-dway, were taken. Tahentsa is one of the guilty villages referred to in paragraph 32 *ante*. "*Ab alio expectes alteri quod faceris.*"

(9)—About the same time, the sister-in-law of a friendly trans-frontier Kongsoh chief was speared to death while working in her *jhoom* by a party of Shindoos.

Total killed, wounded, and captured in trans-frontier raids.

37. This record of trans-frontier raids gives a total of 21 killed two wounded, and 57 taken captive in one year,' without including the 120 who are said to have been killed and carried off in raid No. 3.

The peace reigning within the administrative line shows well by comparison, and, in fact, the one raid which was committed may possibly have been perpetrated through ignorance that the village was under protection.

The advance of the Lemroo guard will, in future, prevent any such raids being committed with impunity.

Slave cases.

38. The following slave cases were disposed of during the year :—

(1)—On the 2nd May 1875, a little Khamie girl came to the Dalekmai police-post, and, on enquiry, it turned out that her father, about five years ago, being in debt, had removed from his village, leaving his daughter in pawn, and had never since appeared to claim her. As she did not wish to return to her owner, she was made over to her grandfather.

(2)—On the 24th May 1875, two women ran away from their owners, and threw themselves on the protection of the Assistant Superintendent of Police at Dalekmai. Both these women belong to trans-frontier Mro tribes, and had been taken captive in raids committed, in the one case nine, and in the other 20 years ago, and had then been sold from tribe to tribe until bought by a tributary chief and his brother some six years ago. These women were declared free, and, as they did not wish to return to their own villages beyond the frontier, they were allowed to marry the men of their choice.

(3)—On the 7th June 1875, a young girl ran away from her owner and came to Palukwa, the head-quarters, for protection. She belonged to a tributary village on the Mee, and had been taken captive a few years ago, and had afterwards passed through the hands of several owners until bought by a tributary Khamie. She was released and made over to her mother.

(4)—On the 1st October 1875, a Khamie woman and her grown-up son, who had run away to the Dalekmai guard, were declared free. They said they had run away because their former master had just died, and they did not wish to remain with his son. The woman and her husband had many years ago become the debtor-slaves of tributary chief Tha Baw, and while in his house the child was born. The husband left his wife a year or two ago, and was released by Captain Hughes, but he has since left the district.

(5)—On the same date another female slave of the abovenamed chief, who had also run away to the Dalekmai guard, was declared free. About 10 years before she had been sold to this chief by her father (since dead) for Rs. 10 and 100 baskets of paddy.

(6)—On the same date a young man, who had also come to the Dalekmai guard, was released from slavery and allowed to marry the last-mentioned girl, and settle down as a free man in the village of his former master. His story was that, 20 years ago, his village in the Chittagong Hill Tracts was attacked by Lushais, and his father was killed and himself carried off. He remained with the Lushais for two years, and was then sold to the Tan-krain Shindoos for one musket. By them he was immediately sold to a tributary chief for eight muskets and one *palah*.

(7)—A boy, who some five years ago had been carried off in a raid by Shindoos from a trans-frontier village on the Tsamee, had been

bought, at the father's request, by a tributary chief. In October 1875 the boy was returned to his father.

(8)—On the 1st February 1876, a man who had been sold as a slave some five years ago was released on his making a complaint.

(9)—On the 7th February 1876, a woman was released and allowed to go and live with her cousin, a Mro police constable on the Mee. While working in her *jhoom* some 17 years ago, she was seized by some Kongsohs, who sold her after three days to a Khoon chief, who, after a week, sold her to a tributary chief on the Kooladan.

Redemption of Lahawk's son.

39. The son of tributary chief Lahawk, who is as among the captives taken in the raid referred to in paragraph 21 *ante*, was ransomed by his father in April 1875 from the Yaklaing Shindoos for Rs. 620 in cash and goods. This seems a large sum, and the father could not have raised it but for his pay as police scout. The Chittagong Hill Tracts authorities are trying to procure the restoration of some of the remaining 24 captives who are believed to be in the possession of a Howlong chief who has become refractory since the return of the Lushais' expedition.

40. There have thus been 11 slaves released and one redeemed privately.

Remarks on slave cases.

The history of the cases given above shows that various reasons led the complainants to wish to be declared free. With three complainants, the reason was a wish to be married and settled in a house of their own; with three others, the death of their original owner and a dislike for his son led them to run away; while one woman, who had been living in the house of an old chief for 17 years, got unsettled on being discovered by a relation. At the last, however, she found it hard to make up her mind to leave her owner.

41. I believe it is universally known throughout the district that any slave can obtain freedom by going to the nearest police-guard, and, as there is not a single person detained by force as a slave, it can safely be left to the parties themselves to complain, without hunting up cases *suo motu*.

HOME.

C.—Domestic, containing all matters connected with the internal administration of the district during the year, together with the usual Civil and Criminal Justice Reports condensed.

42. The total population of the district for the past year, exclusive of the Police force, was 12,442 souls, and the following table exhibits the numbers of each race and tribe, and the proportion of males to females:—

Races.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Europeans	4	..	4
Chyoungthas	635	584	1,219
Arakanese	75	66	141
Khamies	3,769	3,403	7,172
Mros	1,026	1,136	2,162
Khyengs	811	823	1,634
Anoos	15	14	29
Burmese	28	19	47
Shindoos	2	..	2
Shans	17	11	28
Bengalees, &c.	4	..	4
Total ..	6,386	6,056	12,442

43. From this table it will be observed that the Khamies form more than half of the whole population. It must be remembered, however, that the above figures are only approximate, as it has not yet been deemed advisable to attempt an accurate numbering of the people, and, in fact, the Thoogyees being themselves hill-men, could not be trusted to make any complicated returns correctly.

Emigration to and from the district.

44. Two villages of Khyengs, with a population of 76 souls, moved within the administrative boundary during the year, and settled on the Lemroo. Emigration from the district is confined to the Myouktoung circle, which adjoins the plains, and the number of emigrants during the year amounted to 49.

Physical and moral characteristics.

45. The people of the Hill Tracts are physically robust and strong, and capable of great exertion. They are truthful and honest, being as yet uncorrupted by their intercourse with the more civilized inhabitants of the plains.

Occupation.

46. Nearly the whole of the population are engaged in *toungya* or *jhoom* cultivation, and the method employed differs in no way from that followed in other parts of Burma. In the *toungyas* a miscellaneous crop of paddy, cotton, and vegetables is grown. As soon as this crop has been gathered in, the cultivators turn their attention to the banks of the streams which have been left exposed by the falling of the water. The ground is cleared for some 100 feet from the water's edge, and on this tobacco, indigo, and vegetables are sown.

REVENUE.

47. The following table shows the revenue collections of the year, as compared with 1874-75 :—

Items of revenue.

	1874-75.	1875-76.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Land revenue	232	122	..	109
Toungya	2,541	2,598	57	..
Capitation tax	2,525	..	..	2,525
Tribute	..	2,479	2,479	..
Miscellaneous	429	161	..	268
Total ..	5,727	5,360	2,536	2,902
Net decrease ..	..	..	..	366

Alteration in taxation.

48. The procedure laid down by the "Arakan Hills District Laws Regulation, 1874," has been followed in collecting the revenue for 1875-76, and, while the capitation tax has been abolished, tribute has been levied at the rate of one rupee per family.

This has entailed no change in the amount demanded in the previous year, except in the Myouktoung circle, where capitation tax was formerly levied at the rate of two rupees for married men and one rupee for bachelors and widowers.

The collections of the last two years for capitation-tax and tribute were as follows :—

		Rs.
Capitation tax,	1874-75...	2,525
Tribute,	1875-76...	2,479
	Decrease	46

There was a loss of Rs. 190 by the substitution of tribute for capitation tax in the Myouktoung circle; but this was reduced to the net loss of Rs. 46, as shown above, by an increase in the collections in the other circles.

Decrease in land revenue.

49. The land revenue is collected only in the Myouktoung circle, which adjoins the plains, and is obtained from paddy land under plough cultivation, and from gardens and orchards.

There were only 15 acres under plough cultivation, as compared with 122 in the previous year, which is due partly to emigration to the Akyab district, but chiefly, I think, to the growing preference to gaining a livelihood as petty traders.

No tribute received from the trans-frontier chiefs.

50. No tribute was received from chiefs of tribes beyond our demarcated frontier.

51. There is no excise revenue of any kind, and the hill-men make and drink their *khoung*, or rice-beer, perfectly free.

No excise revenue.

JUDICIAL.

52. There were two Judicial officers throughout the year 1875, both exercising Civil and Criminal powers—*viz.*, the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of Hill Tribes.

53. The office of Superintendent was held throughout the year 1875 by Mr. H. Buckle, of the British Burma Commission, and the office of Assistant Superintendent by Nga Boukay, an Arakanese. On the 6th January 1876, Captain C. H. A. Gower relieved Mr. Buckle, who, however, returned to the appointment on the 6th April.

Judicial and Administrative officers during the year.

54. The Superintendent has the ordinary criminal powers of a Magistrate of the district, and he has, besides, been invested with the power to try all offences not punishable with death, and to pass sentence of imprisonment for a term not exceeding seven years. The Assistant Superintendent exercises the powers of a Magistrate of the 3rd class.

Powers of Judicial Officers.

On the Civil side, both officers have the power to try original cases, whatever be the value or the amount of the subject-matter. Appeals from the Assistant Superintendent lie to the Superintendent, and from the Superintendent to the Commissioner, who is the highest Court of appeal in all civil matters.

55. The district is not divided into sub-divisions. The area over which the two Courts exercise jurisdiction is computed at about 1,213 square miles, with a population, excluding the police, of 12,442. The furthest village from a Court-house is 70 miles, and the average distance about 30.

District not divided into sub-divisions.

56. The salary of the Superintendent is the pay proper of his rank in the British Burma Commission, in addition to which he receives a local allowance of Rs. 200 per mensem and a permanent travelling allowance of Rs. 150. The salary of the Assistant Superintendent is Rs. 100, with travelling allowance when absent on duty.

Salary of officers.

57. The total cost of the tribunals was Rs. 22,498.

Cost of tribunals.

58. No stamps are required to be used in either the Civil or Criminal Courts of the district, and no pleaders were employed during the year.

No stamps required and no pleaders employed.

59. On the 11th February 1875, "The Arakan Hill Civil Justice Regulation, 1874," and "The Arakan Hill District Laws Regulation, 1874," received the assent of the Governor-General in Council, and having been published in the local *British Burma Gazette* on the 6th March, they have, since that date, had the force of law.

New regulations for the Hill Tracts.

By the first regulation a distinct procedure has been laid down for the Civil Courts of the Hill Tracts, and by the latter the Acts and Regulations in force in the district have been enumerated in a schedule; the powers of the Superintendent in excise matters have been defined, and rules for the assessment and collection of revenue and for the regulation of the boat-traffic on the river Kooladan have been laid down.

Civil Justice.

60. The following table shows the number of suits instituted and disposed of during the year 1875, as compared with the previous year:—

Name and designation of Officer.	Instituted.		Disposed of.		Pending.	
	1874.	1875.	1874.	1875.	1874.	1875.
Captain W. G. Hughes, Superintendent	6	...	6	...	...	...
Mr. H. Buckle, Officiating Superintendent	1	32	1	31	...	1
Nga Boukay, Assistant Superintendent	72	72	72	72	...	...
Total ...	79	104	79	103	...	1
Increase ...	...	25	...	24	...	1

Increase in number of suits explained.

61. A large increase of suits appears in the Court of the Superintendent, which is due, in part, to suits being brought to recover from the police debts incurred in the bazaar. The number of suits in the Court of the Assistant Superintendent is exactly the same as during the previous year.

Character of litigation.

62. Of the 104 suits instituted, 28 were for money due on unwritten contract, 65 were for movable property, three for damages on account of torts, and seven were suits connected with marriage. There was only one suit for immovable property.

Manner in which litigation was disposed of.

63. Very few cases are contested in this district. The defendant usually acknowledges the claim in full or in part, and in the latter case the parties always come to some arrangement. Of the 21 contested cases, judgment for the defendant was given in only six.

Witnesses.

64. Only 43 witnesses were examined, all of whom were discharged on the first day.

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65. There was not a single application for execution of decree, and there were no appeals from the Court of the Assistant Superintendent.

Execution : appeals.

Criminal Justice.

66. The following table shows the number of offences reported during 1875, and the number of persons brought to trial, convicted, and acquitted as compared with the previous year :—

Offences during the year.

	Number of offences reported.			Number of persons brought to trial.			Acquitted.			Convicted.		
	Not bailable.	Bailable.	Total.	Not bailable.	Bailable.	Total.	Not bailable.	Bailable.	Total.	Not bailable.	Bailable.	Total.
1875	3	24	27	6	70	76	2	23	25	4	47	51
1874	5	40	45	9	61	70	6	11	17	2	50	52
Increase ..	..	..	..	..	9	6	..	12	8	2	..	..
Decrease ..	2	16	18	3	..	..	4	..	..	..	3	1

67. Not bailable offences have decreased from 10 cases with 13 persons in 1873 to three cases with six persons in 1875. There was one case of cattle-theft, in which a Khamie from the Akyab District induced three men belonging to the Hill Tracts to join him in stealing a buffalo, which was tracked and found in their possession. There was no case of murder, against one in the previous year.

Punishments inflicted.

68. Of the 51 persons convicted, 10 were punished with imprisonment and 41 with fine.

Fines.

69. The total amount of fines imposed was Rs. 193, the whole of which was realised. Thirty rupees were paid as compensation.

Appeals.

70. There was no appeal from the Court of the Assistant Superintendent.

Gambling.

71. Act III. of 1867 (Public Gambling) has been put in force twice during the year, and 24 persons were punished. Although gambling still continues, it is very different in character to what used to take place a few years ago.

Police.

Superintendent of Hill Tribes is also *ex-officio* Superintendent of Police.

72. The Superintendent of Hill Tribes is also *ex-officio* Superintendent of Police.

73. The composition of the Police force on the 1st January 1876 is shown in the table below:—

Europeans	... 3
Khyoungthas	... 9
Khamies	... 50
Khyengs	... 5
Mros	... 12
Munipoorees	... 32
Rajbunshees	... 25
Burmese	... 4
Arakanese	... 22
Goorkhas and Tipperahs	... 81
Madrassees	... 3
Bengalees	... 4
Vacancies	... 6
Total sanctioned strength ...	256

74. The European element consisted of one Assistant Superintendent of Police (Mr. Hannay), who was stationed on the northern frontier at Dalekmai, where he has now been for over four years; and two Chief Inspectors of Police, one of whom (Mr. Hawkes) was stationed on the Lemroo, and the other (Mr. Brown) at Tsamee.

Mr. Hawkes took over charge on the 21st September, and Mr. Brown on the 15th July 1875, the former relieving Mr. Mercer, and the latter being appointed in the place of the Burman Inspector, who died of consumption.

75. The Inspectors of Police in this district are styled Chief Inspectors, and draw a local allowance of Rs. 75 a month in addition to their pay of Rs. 175, which was sanctioned by the Chief Commissioner in May 1874, with a view of rendering the appointments prizes to be attained by proficiency and attention to duty.

76. The above table shows that 76 inhabitants of the country are drawing Government pay as policemen, which is a reduction of 18 on the number shown in last year's report. This is due to the larger number of Goorkhas who find their way up here seeking employment, and it is not thought advisable to discourage the practice by turning them back. That the work has not become distasteful, is shown by the number of hill-men who apply for enlistment, and have to be told to wait for vacancies.

The time has not yet arrived when it would be safe to trust to a police force composed chiefly of hill-men although mixed up as they now are with men from the Indian hills, they do their work well.

I might note here that hill-men are not required to give the two months' notice laid down in the Police Act previous to resignation, but they are often re-enlisted after a few months spent at home.

77. The Goorkhas and Muniporees, numbering 113, continue to deserve the praise given them in former reports.

78. The Police of the Hill Tracts have little of the work common to other districts, and they really constitute a *quasi*-military force, whose duty is to repel raids from outside, and to keep in order the tribes within our administrative boundary.

79. The men are divided among ten guards, eight of which are stockaded.

The stocades are built with upright posts some six feet apart, and *chevaux-de-frise* of split bamboos sharpened.

80. One hundred of the men are armed with muzzle-loading rifled cavalry carbines, while the remainder have the old Brown Bess. During the year, however, four Snider carbines were supplied to the Assistant Superintendent of Police at Dalekmai, and I have hopes of soon seeing an improved weapon substituted for the Brown Bess.

81. The whole length of the north-eastern frontier, from Dalekmai to Prengwa, is regularly patrolled once a week during the raiding months by strong parties of men of the frontier guards, who meet and exchange reports. Weekly communication by patrol is also kept up by the guards which are within the line of frontier.

82. It requires strong and hardy men to stand the climate, and work incidental to the Police of these hills, and the admissions to hospital stand as high as 84 per cent. There were, besides, seven deaths. During the year 1875 the resignations numbered 80, and the dismissals 16, while only one man was sent up for trial. It is satisfactory to be able to note that the force have done all that has been required of them well and contentedly.

83. During the year the stockade at Dalekmai was removed from its former position on the bank of the river to the top of a small hill, which, besides increasing the strength of the place, has already proved beneficial to the health of the men. The guard-house at this station has been built sufficiently strong to bear two-inch planking being fixed all round below the flooring, as well as for three feet above the floor, which will convert it into a block-house that can be held by a handful of men, leaving nearly the whole guard available to follow up raiders.

84. A new guard-house has been built on the same plan at Tsamee, and new guard-houses have also been put up at the Kan and Pee rivers.

85. I am glad to be able to state that the guard on the Kan stream was retained throughout the year, and the channel has now been made fairly practicable for small canoes during the rains. The families which I settled last year close to the guard have, however, refused to remain there, owing to a failure of their crops, which are put down by them into the ground, which had never been worked before, being too rich. The men have therefore to continue to be rationed from head-quarters.

86. On the 1st December 1875, the small out-post on the Mee river, at the mouth of the Tsar creek, was withdrawn with the sanction of the Inspector-General of Police, as the Mee river was considered to be sufficiently protected by the guard on the Kan stream.

87. An important change has been effected on the eastern frontier by moving the head-quarters of the Chief Inspector, some twenty miles higher up the Lemroo river, to the spot where it is joined by the Peng stream. This was the position laid down for the guard in the new administrative measure in 1871, but the difficulty of obtaining supplies led to its being placed lower down. This difficulty has now

been met by the settlement of four villages close to the mouth of the Peng, and by inducing the non-tributaries to bring down supplies for sale.

The protection of these same villages (two of which were raided on the 16th November 1875, as noted in paragraph 32) was the immediate cause of the advance of the guard. I spent 11 days towards the end of December in superintending the clearing of the site, and the erection of the stockade; and, shortly after the close of the year, the whole was finished, with the exception of the guard-house.

88. The strength of the force at Prengwa has been fixed to correspond with the Tsamee, namely 30 men and one Inspector; and six men have been detailed from other guards to form an out-post between it and the Lower Lemroo guard, which has been reduced to 11 men and a sergeant.

89. The four guards of Palukwa, Kan, Tsamee, and Prengwa, now form a strong line of defence which raiders will hardly dare to break through.

Public Buildings.

Public buildings.

90. The public buildings of the district have all been repaired during the year. They consist of—(1) the Superintendent's house, (2) Court-house, (3) Lock-up, (4) Guard-house, (5) Magazine, (6) two Bazaar-sheds, (7) Dispensary, (8) Medical Officer's house, and (9) Visitors' house at Palukwa, the head-quarters. At Myouktoung there is a house for the Superintendent, a Court-house, and a long bazaar-shed. The house of the Assistant Superintendent of Police at Dalekmai was removed from its former position on the bank of the river to a small hill near the new stockade.

Health.

Health during the year 1875.

91. With the exception of a sharp epidemic of measles, which broke out in April and lasted till August, the year has been a healthy one. There was no small-pox during the year, but vaccination was continued, and 160 cases were reported.

92. The Dispensary at head-quarters is a well-raised building with a plank floor and bamboo sides, and consists of two rooms for in-door patients, and one room which is used for storing medicines, and as an office. A new shed was built during the year for hill-people.

93. The European Assistant Apothecary, Mr. Reid, being unable to stand the climate, resigned his appointment early in the year; and on the 13th February, Hospital Assistant David took charge of the Dispensary, which charge he retained till the close of the year.

Numbers treated.

94. The total number of patients treated rose from 404 in 1874 to 1,441 during the year under report. Of these 277 were in-patients, and 1,164 out-patients. The number of policemen treated were 102 as in-patients and 113 as out-patients, so that, contrary to the results shown last year, the majority even of the in-patients was composed of natives of the hills.

Three in-door and five out-door patients absconded and left off attending before they were cured.

Of the total number of patients treated, only four died, and they were all policemen.

95. The above figures are most gratifying, as a proof that the hill people fully appreciate the benefits, which the establishment of a Dispensary here has placed within their reach. Great credit is due to the Medical officer, who, not attempting as yet to enforce fixed hours of attendance, personally encourages people to come in, and is at all times ready to attend to them.

Diseases treated.

96. The number of cases of each disease treated were :—

Fever	292	Disease of the respiratory system ...	93
Measles ...	69	Do. do. digestive do. ...	229
Dysentery ...	57	Do. do. urinary do. ...	10
Diarrhœa ...	61	Do. do. skin	208
Disease of the eye ...	77	Other causes	345

Trade and Bazaars.

Regulation of boat-traffic on the river Kooladan.

97. Since the 1st April 1875, all boatmen proceeding up the river Kooladan have been required to declare the contents of their boats at Myouk-htoung, and we are now able to form a fairly correct idea of the import trade of the Kooladan.

Imports for 1875-76.

	Value. Rs.	A.	P.
Paddy, 38,068 baskets	6,104	2	0
Rice, 27,790 ditto	9,598	9	0
Salt, 3,944,32 maunds	2,262	0	0
Buffaloes, 85	2,610	8	0
Bullocks and goats, 568	3,937	0	0
Miscellaneous	1,23,012	10	0
Cash	1,03,436	0	0
Total ...	2,50,960	13	0

To this must be added a sum of Rs. 56,000, which was brought up in cash to pay the Police and other establishments, &c., and this would make the imports amount to Rs. 3,06,960-13.

Exports.

98. The exports of the Kooladan were as follow :—

Exports for 1875-76.

	Value. Rs.	A.	P.
Tobacco bundles, 126,428 bundles	28,462	8	0
Ditto roots, 185,000 ditto	62	8	0
Ditto ditto, 18 seers	7	0	0
Cotton, baskets, 1,603 baskets	3,325	8	0
Sessamum, 3,291	3,004	0	0
Bamboos 513,442	3,222	4	0
Plantains 103,335	1,121	7	0
Miscellaneous	5,539	1	6
Cash	139,541	2	0
Goods unsold	32,327	5	0
Total ...	216,612	11	6

18. The Chief Commissioner notes with pleasure that the dispensary at Tura has been a success, and much appreciates the zeal and tact of the Civil Surgeon, Dr. Ferris. He trusts that when the new building is completed, its sphere of usefulness will be extended. Nothing, Colonel Keatinge believes, has such a beneficial effect on the savage mind as successful medical treatment. He regrets that the attempt to open a dispensary at Mankarchur has been unsuccessful. The Deputy Commissioner should try again to raise the necessary subscriptions. Over 4,000 persons have been vaccinated during the year under review, compared with 1,733 persons vaccinated during 1874-75. This result is most satisfactory, and it is encouraging to see that the former prejudice of the Garos to vaccination has been almost entirely overcome. Great praise is due to Dr. Ferris for his zeal and energy in the matter.

19. The Chief Commissioner, after perusal of Captain Williamson's full and interesting report, desires to congratulate him upon the state of his district. The manner in which he has identified himself with the people under his charge must be regarded as the key to his success.